



## Scholarship Fund Supports OIF/OEF Participation in Clinic

A true outpouring of love, compassion and generosity have resulted in a record number of scholarships for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom veterans to participate in this year's Clinic.

The National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic Scholarship Fund pays for travel and other costs associated with participating in the Clinic for those who would not be able to attend otherwise.

This year, nearly \$100,000 was raised, funding 50 veterans and their family members to participate in the Clinic. In comparison \$40,000 was raised last year, which funded 23 veterans and their family members. This year, donations were received from both the Snowmass community and surrounding areas, as well as sponsors and donors from throughout the country.

"Donor comments we've received have indicated that this is one way they can do their part for our nation's newly are wounded," said Sandy Trombetta, Clinic director. "We are thrilled with the support we've received, which allows these veterans to participate in this experience."

Several veterans who received scholarships are humbled by the support they have received.

One scholarship recipient, Capt. Marc Giammatteo, who is currently active duty on medical hold, is stationed at Ft. Carson, Colo., Third Armored Calvary Regiment, and an outpatient at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C. He said he is very grateful for the instructors and other volunteers who are helping him and other veterans this week. "They are



**There are 52  
OIF/OEF  
participants.**

amazing! I am in awe of their concern for us. It is very humbling. I was a great skier before my injury, but it is totally different going from two skis to the three track," he said. "I had great instructors. They were very positive and told me to keep my balance and focus."

Giammatteo's goals for the future are to remain active duty and attend graduate school. "I want to become an instructor at West Point, whether active duty or as a civilian because I've always wanted to teach and this would be very fulfilling for me."



***'The Clinic has been a great experience. I'm so grateful to be here, and I'm having a blast,' said Michael Oreskovic, from Eugene, Ore., who received scholarship funding to attend this year's Clinic.***



## David Vidana Continues on the Road to Recovery

By Molly Reynolds

At 22, David Vidana was, in his own words, “outgoing and extroverted.” A student at the University of Southern California, he was on his way to fulfilling his dream of becoming an occupational therapist. His plans



**David Vidana, from Sun Valley, Calif.**

changed after September 11, 2001, when his Marine Corps Reserve unit was activated and trained stateside for more than two years. In 2003, they got the call to go overseas. “I was pretty well prepared,” Vidana said, admitting nonetheless that it was also a scary feeling.

Only hours after his arrival in Baghdad, Vidana found himself in the middle of a firefight. A radio operator, he was relaying orders from his commanding officer when a bullet pierced his helmet. Vidana was declared dead – twice. Not willing to give up, colleagues rushed him to the field hospital where, 13 hours after being shot, medics detected a faint heartbeat. Vidana credits his friends and physician, Dr. Sanja Gupta, the medical correspondent for CNN, with saving his life.

Gupta was embedded with the troops covering a story about Navy medics. A practicing neurosurgeon, Gupta examined Vidana and, because of limited supplies, used a regular drill to relieve a blood clot. “I consider myself a major impact and a life-changing experience for Dr. Gupta – he saved my life,” Vidana said. Last June when Gupta spoke at a com-

mencement ceremony at the University of California at Irvine, he told Vidana’s story. Now, Gupta and Vidana stay in touch through e-mail and telephone and they visited in person earlier this year. “Dr. Gupta tells me he has a vested interest in my recovery,” Vidana said.

Vidana is now 26 and working hard to overcome his lingering impairments. He recently passed his occupational therapy certification exam and is currently an occupational therapy intern at VA’s ambulatory care center in Sepulveda, part of the Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. Outside of work, he enjoys playing basketball with his friends from church. “They don’t cut me any slack” he said. “It’s all elbows and ribs.”

Vidana first came to the Winter Sports Clinic last year, and was looking forward to coming back this year so he could continue to focus on snowboarding. He is very grateful for the opportunities he is given at the Clinic to further develop his coordination and snowboarding skills.

One residual of Vidana’s injury is what he calls a “flat affect,” where his emotions do not always show. He said, “I have changed, but in many ways I am still that outgoing person, I just can’t always show it.” His advice for anyone struggling with an injury is simple. “Keep your head up and don’t quit.” David Vidana is one who knows.

### Scholarship cont’d from page 1

He said he is very appreciative of being able to attend the Clinic this year, and plans to return again. “This experience has been outstanding,” he said. “It is an awesome feeling to be taken care of the way we are here. The ratio of instructors to participants is outstanding. If I could, I would like to thank each of them personally.”

### Attention Participants



**Please return any borrowed equipment from the Medical Room before 8:00 a.m. tomorrow.**



## Planting a Family Dream One Year at a Time

Every once in a while, you meet someone who changes your life. For Jack O'Brien, president of J.H. O'Brien Landscaping and Maintenance from Santa Monica, Calif., hundreds of veterans at the Winter Sports Clinic have changed his.

For the past four years, Chris Riley, a sponsor from Coca Cola in Atlanta and O'Brien's son, has been personally



involved in the Clinic. Last year, he invited his father and sister, Deborah, to attend as guests. Once they were here, they were hooked. This year, they returned as full-fledged sponsors themselves.

This family-owned business caters to commercial corporations, and has become a gold medal sponsor. They have committed funding for many years ahead.

"We are blessed and honored to give back in some way to the men and women who have protected us for so many years," O'Brien said. "We used to donate to a variety of

charities and organizations, but following our visit here last year we combined everything for the Winter Sports Clinic. We will be sponsors as long as we live."

Deborah said she feels that we have our way of life because of what veterans have given us. "We are just honored to give something back to them. Seeing their smiles when they achieve this new experience is why we are here. The patriotism we feel here is incomparable."

In the future, the family plans to bring their children to the Clinic to help preserve their sponsorship for the future.

"The gratitude and appreciation we feel by being here and interacting with participants is truly humbling," O'Brien said. We don't expect that as a sponsor.

From what I have witnessed, the Clinic helps you find something within yourself that helps you get through. Everyone has it, but not everyone knows how to find it. Instructors and volunteers here help the veterans achieve that. We are happy to support that."

The O'Brien family is just one of many dedicated sponsors of the Clinic this year. A complete list of sponsors is included in your Winter Sports Clinic program booklet. Participants, staff and volunteers of the 19<sup>th</sup> National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic thank them for all the "miracles on the mountainside" they have made possible week.

## Want to Participate in Olympic Training?

The U. S. Olympic Committee plans to host 50 to 100 disabled veterans from Walter Reed Army Hospital and Brooke Army Medical Center at two multi-day festivals of Paralympic sports clinics and competitions this year.

The first festival will be held at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. this September. Events will include fencing, sit volleyball, cycling, table tennis and shooting. The second will be held at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, Calif, in October, and will feature track and field, archery, cycling, and swimming. Both festivals will include Olympic and Paralympic coaches and elite team athletes serving as clinicians and competitors.

If you are interested in attending either of these festivals, contact John Register, Manager of the Paralympic Academy and the American Heroes Program of the U.S. Paralympics, U.S. Olympic Committee at (719) 866-2038; or email [john.register@usoc.org](mailto:john.register@usoc.org). Register will be available at the Clinic through tomorrow morning to meet with veterans who are interested in taking part in these events. You can reach him on his cell phone at (719) 439-2260.



**John Register, a Gulf War Army veteran and competitive athlete, is available today to discuss details of Olympic training opportunities.**





## The Big and Small of It!

Most of us are familiar with the common service dog breeds of Labrador Retrievers and German Shepherds. But at the Clinic this week, we find the service dogs come in all shapes and sizes, are selected for many different reasons and surprisingly, represent two very uncommon breeds.

Topping the unique breed selection this year is Poncho, a four-pound Pomeranian owned by Gerald Thorne, an Army veteran from Newport, Wash.

Poncho was approved as a seizure alert dog for Thorne after he suffered an epileptic episode. "Poncho licked my face until I came out of the seizure. Now he helps me everyday. He's patient and very well-behaved when in public or at home."



**Poncho with his veteran, Gerald Thorne, from Newport, Wash.**

Thorne was offered a larger breed as his service dog; however, he chose Poncho since they were so well bonded. "When he was born, he was so small, that I had to hold him in the palm of my hand to assist him in getting nourishment from his mother. We bonded very quickly," he said.

"He doesn't eat much and he doesn't take up a lot of space. He's such a special part of my life. I'm very blessed to have him with me," he said.

Another unique breed making his third trip to the Clinic is Vance, a silver standard poodle who is a guide dog for Bill Thayer, Vietnam veteran from Garland, Texas. He selected a poodle mainly for his hypoallergenic qualities. "My wife is allergic to dander from fur common to most dogs," he said.

"Poodles have hair and don't produce dander. Also poodles are very smart." Poodles seem to be catching on as service breeds. Last year, there were about 35 reportedly used throughout the country. "There are



**Vance with his veteran, Bill Thayer, from Garland, Texas**

currently about 50 in service today," he said.

Vance assists Thayer to specific locations with simple voice commands. "I tell him I want to go to the Conference Center and he takes me there. He remembers that we have been there before and can take me there after only two visits. He's pretty amazing," he said.

"Vance provides me a sense of independence and self confidence that I can't describe. I can go anywhere I want to go with no fear of falling," he said.

Whether they are big or small, common breed or unique, service dogs serve a vital role in the independence of many veterans. They are among our growing Winter Sports Clinic family.





## Volunteers Make the Clinic

“They come for all different reasons in the beginning, but once they experience the Clinic for the first time, volunteers seem to come back year after year,” said Teresa Parks, Director of Operations for the Winter Sports Clinic.

“Word of mouth has led us to turn down a large number of volunteers in recent years,” Parks said. “It is extremely hard to say no, but we just don’t have enough positions for everyone. Veterans have just stolen our volunteers’ hearts. They are so committed, which makes it easier for us, knowing there will always be a consistency among those who are here that helps ensure it will be a great event for our veterans.”

Thank you to all of our volunteers who have worked so long and tirelessly to provide great service to all of our participants this week. You have contributed so much to the success of another great event!



**Virginia Howard, Barbara Grover, and Jeanie Gechter enjoy volunteering.**



**Clinic volunteers Angela Lara from Truth or Consequences, N.M. and Ramona Ganong from Las Cruces, N.M.**

### In our volunteers’ words:

**Virginia Howard from Dallas, Texas:** “This has become a habit. I am a retired VA employee who likes to stay busy and I do this to stay busy.”

**Barbara Grover from Costa Mesa, Calif.:** “I started 18 years ago and keep coming back to see all our friends and keep in touch with everyone I worked with through the years.

**Jeanie Gechter from Delta, Colo.:** “I will always walk the extra mile for veterans.”

## Don't Miss Today's Closing Ceremonies



Be sure to attend Closing Ceremonies and the Victory Celebration tomorrow evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Center Ballroom.

Dr. Lawrence Biro, Director of VA's Rocky Mountain Network will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Special guests include Bo Derek, National Honorary Chairperson for VA Rehabilitation

Special Events; Ed Hartman, DAV National Director of Voluntary Services; Sandy Trombetta,

Director of the Winter Sports Clinic; Dr. Michael Murphy, Director of Grand Junction VA Medical Center; and James Sursely, National Commander of the DAV. The Honorable Gordon Mansfield, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, will deliver keynote remarks.

A highlight of the evening will be the presentation of special awards, and the closing video presentation highlighting activities of the week. Following the ceremony, come to the Victory Celebration for dessert and a last chance to mingle with all the new friends you've met at the Clinic this week. Entertainment will be provided by Gary Quist and the All Star Band.





## The Reluctant Role Model is Inspiration to Others

by Molly Reynolds

Tony Santili looked a little baffled when asked to be interviewed about being a role model. “I don’t see myself as a role model,” he said. But other people do.

Santili is a Marine and soldier, the recipient of a purple heart, a former supervisor of Prosthetic Services and, for many years, a ski instructor at the Winter Sports Clinic. Santili understands what it is to live without a limb, having lost his leg in combat in Vietnam in 1967.

The other ski instructors refer to Santili as the “Godfather” of skiing. But if you ask participants of the Clinic from recent years, they will quickly tell you that they see him as a role model and an inspiration.

In 1968, Santili decided he wanted to ski. On his first time to an area slope, the ski instructor looked at him and said, “But you only have one leg.” Santili responded, “You didn’t tell me how many legs I had to have to ski.” With the help of an amputee ski instructor and others, he learned to snow and water ski again. “I want to give back what has been given me,” he said.

Mike Murphy, one of Santili’s students said, “I see Tony more as an inspiration and a great guy to be around.” One of the ways he helps new

amputees is to just sit down and talk to them.”

Santili has another purpose to his life these days. He is founder of the New England Winter Sports Clinic for Disabled Veterans. He and cofounder and friend, Ralph Marche, Voluntary Service Chief at the VA medical facility in Boston, started the clinic modeling it after this event. “We started out with 11 veterans and now we reached our capacity of 55 each year,” said Santili.

Does Santili have a role model?

“Absolutely, my Dad,” he said.

His father, a 90-year-old Army veteran of WWII, plays golf three times a week and walks the course. He was a medic in Africa where he contracted malaria. “He never talked to me about his military service – ever,” said Santili. “But when I returned home for a visit after Vietnam, he just started talking and told me everything. It really helped me. He has been right there for me through all this and he still is.”

“There is life after disability,” Santili said he tells other veterans. “It may take a little while and some patience, but you will find it.”



**James King from Washington, D.C., and ski instructor Tony Santili**

## Derek Thomas – Attended 18 of the last 19 Clinics

In 1987, Navy veteran Derek Thomas attended the first National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic at Grand Junction, Colo. At that time, there was only a group of about 75 disabled vets in attendance. The event has become just a little bit larger now, with 322 participants in Snowmass this week. Thomas, 42, of San Diego, prepares all year to work on his snowboarding kills at the Clinic, and only missed one year because of a knee injury. It was a letdown, but the next year he had even more determination to attend.

When Thomas began attending the Clinic, he excelled in cross country skiing. Around eight years ago, he wanted



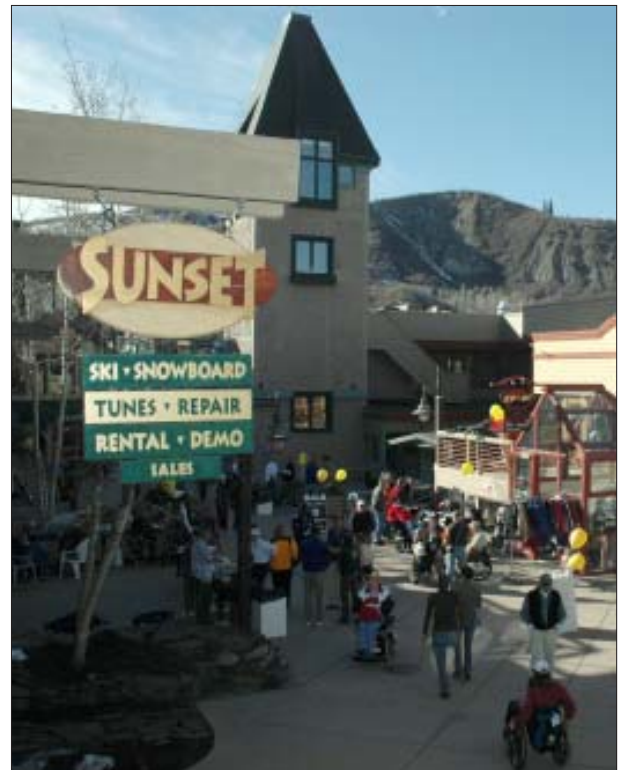
**Derek Thomas**

to try snowboarding – despite his physical therapist’s best advice, thinking it might be too strenuous. He spoke with event director Sandy Trombetta about his desire to try snowboarding, and he was paired up with instructor Bobby Palm. Since then, he has enjoyed snowboarding so much he tries it at the Clinic every year, exclusively.

“People are sometimes ignorant about what disabled veterans can do,” Thomas said. “At the Clinic, we show them courage and strength as we participate in the many events, and this changes their perceptions.” His enjoyment of the Winter Sports Clinic every year was a topic of conversation recently with two young disabled veteran attendees. They asked him if he was addicted to the event and Thomas told them, “I will see you both next year!”



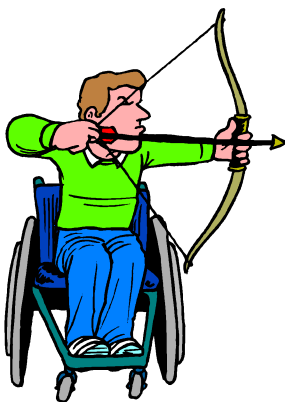
## Photos from the slopes. . .







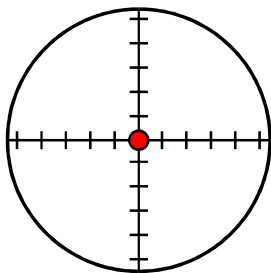
## Photos from the slopes. . .



**James Mayo from Butner, N.C., with instructor Jet Davis**



**Stephen Moffitt from Wyoming, R.I., with instructor Dick Bird**



**Rodney Sample FROM Virginia Beach, Va., with instructor Jerry Roberson**





## Photos from the slopes. . .



***Gerald Tharp of Carson City, Nev., slices into the snow as he heads down the slopes on a bi-ski.***



***Russell Worth from Milwaukee, Wis., is helped along the trail by instructors.***



***A view of the mountains from the village.***



## Photos from the slopes. . .



## The Aspens of Snowmass





## Thanks from Your Public Affairs Staff

It has been our honor to share your wonderful stories with others throughout the week. For those of you who gave us permission to tell your stories in the *SkiGram* and to the largest group of media representatives in the history of the Clinic, we thank you!

We invite you to check out the Web site at [www.wintersportsclinic.org](http://www.wintersportsclinic.org) and be sure to share it with your friends and family. If you gave us permission to develop a news release and we took your photograph, you will see both under [Participant Information](#) on the Web. While we were able to get photos of 97% of the participants who wanted hometown news releases, 11 participants escaped our cameras.

Please be assured that we did not release any information about your participation if you did not give us permission. If you plan to attend next year, we ask that you consider allowing us the opportunity to tell your story by checking "Yes," on your Hometown News Release form.

We extend our sincerest thanks to all the staff and volunteers who have helped us throughout the week in tracking down participants for interviews and newsletter stories. You were wonderful!!

From the entire Public Affairs Team, thank you so much for allowing us to share your experiences and tell the wonderful *Miracles on the Mountainside* that happened at the 19<sup>th</sup> National Disabled Winter Sports Clinic. We leave the Clinic inspired by your courage and commitment and hope to see you next year in Snowmass Village!

### The 2005 Winter Sports Clinic Public Affairs Team

Kim Byers, Public Affairs Director, VA National Programs

Jenny Shafer Tankersley, VA National Public Affairs Coordinator

Willie Alexander

Jeff Bowen

Susan Brochat

Bill Browning

Elaine Buehler

Gene Davies

Robert Figueroa

Susan Fleece

Lilly Gresham

Mike Hormuth

David Irvine

Jeff Luginbuel

Butch Miller

Jeanne Miserendino

Joe Nguyen

Richard Olague

Bob Pedersen

Molly Reynolds

Jeannie Riffe

Andy Ruben

Lana Shuman

John Sokolowski

Tammy Thomas

Robert Turtill

Jeff West



**Dr. Francis Murphy, deputy under secretary for health for policy coordination is interviewed by MSNBC.**



**Dana Liesegang from Grand Junction, Colo., is interviewed by Dannon Nicks of KJCT-TV 8 from Grand Junction.**



## It's a Family Affair

By Susan Broschat

If you want to find some of the families of this year's participants, you might just need to check the slopes. That's because families are also getting the benefit of ski instruction.

Among those are Corey McGee and his wife, Jennifer. They are at the Clinic for their first year. Still on active duty from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom (OIF/OEF), Corey recently discovered that he loves skiing. Instructors are teaching Jennifer and other families to enjoy this sport together. Corey likes being out on the slopes with Jennifer and said, "This is a good activity we can do together."

The McGees aren't the only ones taking advantage of this unique and groundbreaking opportunity. Participant Donna Cannon brought her 13-year-old daughter, Brittany, so they can both experience the Clinic for the first time. Cannon is a Navy veteran who had planned on making the Navy a career, wanting to be able to say, "I contributed something." Although she is no longer on active duty, she is still committed to contributing – this time, going to school to become a substance abuse counselor. Cannon and Brittany both wanted to try to rock climb and ski because they felt it would be better to do it together. "The Clinic is fantastic," Cannon said. "The volunteers are great." Her motivation comes in part due to her attitude that if anyone tells her she can't do something, she will prove them wrong. She is teaching her daughter the valuable lesson of not letting obstacles get in the way of accomplishment.

Fred Garraway attended the very first Winter Sports Clinic in Grand Junction in 1987. Though he didn't participate for several years, he came back to the Crested Butte Clinic in 2000 and has been coming every year since. Each year, his wife Pert comes with him, but last year they also brought their grandson along for the

first time. This year, granddaughter Bridget, is joining them. Bridget has been learning and will soon be skiing along with Grandpa. Garraway, a retired Army veteran, loves to scuba dive, ride the gondola, and bi-ski – activities that have now become a family affair.

Another family at this year's Clinic is James Miner and his wife, Phon. James is excited about being at the Clinic for the first time. An OIF/OEF veteran, he had a traumatic brain injury as well as a spinal cord injury while serving in Iraq. Phon says, "James was always fit as a fiddle before his injury, and the Clinic is helping

bring him back to improved health." She will be skiing with James and his instructor today and believes this is a wonderful opportunity to do things together. The



**Donna Cannon from Des Plaines, Ill.**

Clinic has motivated both to "continue to try other challenges that seemed impossible since his injury," she added.

The Clinic has long been recognized for breaking new ground in adaptive skiing. This is yet another example of making it work for everyone by making it also a *Family Affair*.



**Veteran Fred Garraway with his wife, Pert, and granddaughter, Bridget**







## Three-Time War Veteran Tackles Ski Trails

By Tammy Thomas

He used to cross country ski. He used to horseback ride. He used to ride a Harley. His name is Michael Brickert, and he still does all this - and more. You'll see him on top of the mountain and tackling the ski trails this week.



**Michael Brickert from Leavenworth, Wash. with instructor Rick Adams**

Michael Brickert is a 27 year, three-time war veteran, who served in Vietnam, the Gulf War and Operation Enduring Freedom. "We prepare for war, but we are promoting peace," Brickert said. "In my military career, as well as my years in law enforcement, it was my duty to serve and protect and maintain peoples' rights and freedoms."

On Jan. 25, 2003, in Diego Garcia, while serving with the 462nd Air Expeditionary Group that the vehicle he was driving collided with an ammunition truck and his life changed in many ways. He was flown to Singapore, then to Japan; to Okinawa; to Guam; then to Hawaii, to the McCord Air Force Base in Tacoma, Wash.; and finally to the VA Medical Center in Puget Sound, Seattle. He arrived in the states as a paraplegic.

"I was surprised to recognize the toll a trauma takes on the body," Brickert said. "Looking back, there was a time it felt like I lost my personality. You can't smile. You can't laugh. My attention span was short." It was at the Puget Sound VAMC that he spent time with recreation, physical and occupational therapists. "They're the ones who encouraged me to participate in last year's Winter Sports Clinic for the first time. It was there that I participated in horseback riding," he said. "It is not only proven to be very physically therapeutic, but it was also emotionally therapeutic for me."

Before he was injured, Michael competed in biathlons (skiing and rifle shooting) and frequently made it to national

competitions. After last year's Clinic, he and his wife, who is also a cross country skier, helped set up a sit-ski in their area. The first time out, he skied 8 kilometers.

Brickert said his transition from soldier to veteran went pretty smoothly.

"I go to the VA all the time now to visit with other newly injured veterans," he said. "I ask them what I can help them with - whether it's helping them get adaptive equipment or just offering them some encouragement. It's critical that we get veterans interested in being "first timers" at the Clinic. "I've regained feelings of freedom. It's wonderful feeling independent again," he added

"Ours is the greatest country in the world," he said. "The veterans before us established our freedom. We now help to maintain that freedom. I feel like I owe a lot to those who went before me."

"After attending the Clinic last year, I participated in the Wheelchair Games, where I won several gold medals," he said. "Having attended those two events, I now know what can be done in a wheelchair. The WSC enabled us to try things we didn't think were possible. The instructors were just the best. We couldn't do what we do without them."



When checking your luggage at the Aspen Airport, make sure you do not have CO<sub>2</sub> cartridges and matches or lighters

of any kind. The only flammable items allowed in your checked luggage are toiletries.

At the gate checkpoint, please make sure you remove all laptops from your bags. Some other items that are not allowed at the checkpoint include: knives of any kind, torch type lighters, sharp scissors (pointed), and anything that might look like part of a firearm, such as bullet key chains. You are allowed to have any tools that you might need for equipment for wheelchairs and prosthetic devices.

If you have questions contact Nathan Rudolph, supervisor at the Aspen airport, at (970) 379-1389.

On behalf of the screening staff at Aspen, "We thank you for everything you have done for our country. We hope you enjoyed your stay in Snowmass Village!"



For your reading pleasure...

**Zodi Yak**

Preparer of horror-scopes and  
predictor of your future ....



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 – Feb 19)**

You have conquered the mountains!

**PISCES (Feb 20 – March 20)**

You have skied like a champion!

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

You have soared to new heights!

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

You have charged forward!

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

You have tried everything and succeeded!

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

You have smiled and laughed a lot this week!

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

You have reigned supreme on the slopes!

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

You have overcome challenges and achieved wondrous things!

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 – Oct. 23)**

You have struck a new balance – on skis!

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22)**

You've exerted great force!

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21)**

You've enjoyed all the excitement!

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)**

You've found "Miracles on the Mountainside" here!

We hope you have enjoyed this column this week, and we hope to see all of you back at the 20<sup>th</sup> National Veterans Winter Sports Clinic in April 2006!

— Zodi Yak



In order for departures to go smoothly, we have arranged three "bag pulls" to transport your luggage to the Aspen Airport. Below is a schedule for luggage pick-up according to your flight times.

You must have all of your luggage (except carry-on) outside your hotel room at the given times in order to ensure that it is picked up.

- Flight # 5656 Departing 7:01 a.m. (Green Luggage Tags)

- Flight # 5650 Departing 8:29 a.m. (Yellow Luggage Tags)

Please have your bags placed outside of your hotel room by **3:20 a.m.** They will be picked up at 3:30 a.m.

- Flight # 5579 Departing 10:12 a.m. (Light Blue Luggage Tags)

- Flight # 5980 Departing 12:50 p.m. (Orange Luggage Tags)

Please have your bags placed outside of your hotel room by **4:50 a.m.** They will be picked up at 5:00 a.m.

- Flight # 5662 Departing 1:55 p.m. (Dark Blue Luggage Tags)

- Flight # 5982 Departing 3:45 p.m. (Red Luggage Tags)

- Flight # 7071 Departing 4:45 p.m. (Black Luggage Tags)

Please have your bags placed outside of your hotel room by **7:50 a.m.** They will be picked up at 8:00 a.m.

If you do not have luggage tags with the corresponding color dot, please notify the Silvertree Bellstand at extension 8252.

Please feel free to stop by the front desk this afternoon to settle any incidental charges you may have. This will help expedite your departure tomorrow.





## The Chef's Corner



### Today's Meal Schedule

Conference Center Ballroom

6:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Breakfast
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Taste of Snowmass

### Breakfast Buffet

Fresh Sliced Fruit, Oatmeal with Granola, Raisins, Almonds  
Sliced Bananas and Skim Milk  
Sliced Zucchini, Banana Nut, and Lemon Sweet Breads  
With Whipped Butter and Natural Fruit Preserves  
Assorted Muffins, Biscuits  
Breakfast Sausage, Thick-sliced Ham

Omelet Bar with Cooked-to-Order Omelets  
to include Ham, Cheese, Mushrooms, Roasted Peppers  
Fresh Tomatoes, Green Onions, and Salsa

Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaf Coffee, Herbal Hot Teas  
and Assorted Chilled Juice



Veterans History Project interviews conclude today at 11:00 a.m. Thank you to everyone who shared their stories with us this week. They will be sent to the Library of Congress as a way to honor our nation's veterans, by creating a lasting legacy of their military experience.



**PM Rain**  
**High 45° F**  
**Low 21° F**



## Medical Assistance

### Bedford A Conference Room

The medical room remains available today from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. for non-emergent care. The Bedford A Conference Room is located one level below the mall, across the street from the Mountain Chalet Hotel. There is stairway access from the mall next to Christy Sports. For wheelchair access, please use the elevator above the main bus terminal (at the far end of the mall) to get to the medical room level.

### Transportation to Bedford A Conference Room

Van transportation is available from the Silvertree Hotel to the Medical Room. Catch the medical van in front of the hotel, or call the Medical Room for transportation.



### After Hours Medical Help



Call the Medical Room for recorded instructions on how to contact the on-call medical provider, or dial the hotel operator.

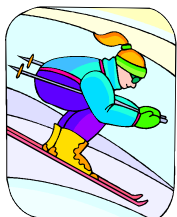
### Medical Room Phone (970) 923-8330

(extension 8330 on conference center phones)  
For life threatening emergencies, dial 911



# Today's Schedule

FRIDAY, APRIL 8



**It's Race Day!**  
Be at the Spider Sabich Race Center at 8:00 a.m. sharp!

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>Yoga Warm Up</b><br>Max Park Room  |
| <b>8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Downhill Race Day</b><br>Spider Sabich Race Center/Nastar Course   |
| <b>8:00 a.m. to noon</b>       | <b>Cross Country Race Day</b><br>Top of the Village   |
| <b>10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.</b> | <b>Medal Presentations</b><br>Snowmass Village Mall   |
| <b>11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</b> | <b>Taste of Snowmass</b><br>Snowmass Village Mall   |
| <b>1:00 p.m.</b>               | <b>Downhill Race Day</b><br>Spider Sabich Race Center   |
| <b>7:00 p.m.</b>               | <b>Closing Ceremonies</b><br>Conference Center Ballroom   |
| <b>9:00 p.m.</b>               | <b>Victory Celebration</b><br>Entertainment by:<br>Gary Quist and the All-Star Band<br>Conference Center Ballroom |

## Prosthetic and Wheelchair Repair

Conference Center, Sinclair Room  
6:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

For assistance between those hours, call:  
Wheelchair Repair (Don at 710-9740)  
Prosthetic Repair (Joe at 710-9060)



If you have misplaced an item, check the Lost and Found located in the Sinclair Room.



**Monica Pearl from Rochester, N. Y. was misidentified on page 2 of the Thursday SkiGram. Here she skis with instructor Mark Ball.**



## SkiGram is on the Web

Look for the full-color edition of this newsletter on the Web at: [www.wintersportsclinic.org](http://www.wintersportsclinic.org)